

*With the compliments
of the Commissioners*

REPORT
OF THE
GOVERNOR AND COMMITTEE
OF THE
HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY,
TO BE
LAID BEFORE THE SHAREHOLDERS
ON MONDAY, JULY 17TH, 1893.

LONDON:
PRINTERS: SIR JOSEPH CAUSTON AND SONS,
9, EASTCHEAP, E.C., AND SOUTHWARK STREET, S.E.

1893.



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1893.

DIRECTORS.



Governor.

SIR DONALD A. SMITH, K.C.M.G.

Deputy-Governor.

THE EARL OF LICHFIELD.

Committee.

SANDFORD FLEMING, Esquire, C.M.G.

RUSSELL STEPHENSON, Esquire.

WALTER VAUGHAN MORGAN, Esquire.

THOMAS SKINNER, Esquire.

JOHN COLES, Esquire.

HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY.

A GENERAL COURT of the Governor and Company of Adventurers of England trading into Hudson's Bay will be held at the City Terminus Hotel, Cannon Street, on Monday, the 17th July next, at Twelve o'clock, when a Report from the Governor and Committee will be laid before the Shareholders, and a Dividend declared.

At this meeting Resolutions to the following effect will be submitted to the Shareholders :—

1. That in lieu of the share of profits of the Officers of the Company under the Deed Poll, an annual payment equal to the amount now payable to each Officer under the Guarantee be and is hereby assured to them, with one year's notice from the 1st June in any year for the termination of the engagement or service of any Officer, not dismissed without notice for wilful neglect of duty or other misconduct, and that there be continued to them the privilege granted by the Minute of the Board, dated 26th February, 1879, as follows :

“ The Governor and Committee agree to allow Commissioned Officers who “ have not received compensation under the old Deed Poll one year's leave of “ absence preparatory to their retirement from the Service in terms of the “ present Deed Poll, on condition that the privilege shall not apply to more “ than three Officers retiring in any one year. The year's leave of absence to “ commence at the expiration of the year's notice required by the Deed Poll. “ No Officer to acquire any vested interest under this resolution.”

2. That there also be continued to them the privileges granted by the Minute of the Board, dated 23rd January, 1883, as follows :

“ That in the event of the death of any of the Commissioned Officers who “ have not received compensation under the Old Deed Poll the Governor and “ Committee will agree to allow the representatives of such Officers the profits “ of the Outfit following that to which they have a claim under the Deed Poll, “ thus placing their representatives on the same footing as Officers who are “ entitled to one year's leave of absence preparatory to their retirement from the “ Service.”

3. That from time to time Commissioned Officers shall be eligible for promotion according to merit to the different grades of Officers at present existing, with the guarantee above stated.

4. That Commissioned Officers on active service coming under the agreement proposed shall for a period of six years after retirement be entitled to an allowance from the Company equal to one-half of the remuneration to be assured to them respectively, unless neglect of duty or other sufficient cause renders it inexpedient in the opinion of the Board, and in the interests of the Company, to grant such retiring allowance. The continuance of the retiring allowance to be subject to the condition that the recipient shall enter into no business arrangement which either directly or indirectly may injuriously affect the Company's trade.

5. That the foregoing resolutions concerning the Officers of the Company take effect as from the 1st June, 1893, anything in the Deed Poll contained to the contrary notwithstanding.

In accordance with the provisions of the Company's Charters, the following Members of the Board retire by rotation and will be proposed for re-election : MR. SANDFORD FLEMING, C.M.G., MR. RUSSELL STEPHENSON, and MR. THOMAS SKINNER.

MR. THOMAS A. WELTON will be proposed for re-election to the office of Auditor of the Company.

The Transfer Books will be closed on the 1st July, and reopened on the 19th July.

By order of the Board,

W. WARE,

Acting Secretary.

HUDSON'S BAY HOUSE,
LONDON, 29th June, 1893.

REPORT.

THE Governor and Committee have now to submit to the Proprietors the Annual Accounts, which show a profit of £71,353 0s. 10d., to which must be added £17,763 7s. 2d. brought forward last year, making a total of £89,116 8s. 0d. Out of this sum they recommend a dividend of 12s. per share, which will absorb £60,000, leaving the sum of £29,116 8s. 0d. to be carried forward.

It is satisfactory to be able to state that the prices obtained at the Fur Sales held in January and March last, show a gratifying improvement over those of recent years.

The Board have given continued attention to further reductions in the cost of management, both in London and Canada, with the result that considerable savings have been effected in addition to those referred to in the last Report.

Regarding future prospects, it is of course difficult to anticipate with any degree of certainty, but the reports received from many of the Fur Trade Districts show considerable improvement over last year, and the Sale Shop business continues to increase in volume, notwithstanding the temporary depression caused by the low price of wheat.

The Land Account now submitted shows the cash receipts and disbursements for the year ending 31st March, 1893. The receipts amount to £39,027 3s. 11d., as compared with £37,034 2s. 9d. for the year ending 31st March, 1892.

The Sales during the past year have been as follows :—

Farm Lands—16,837 acres for ..	\$100,405	
(Averaging \$5·96 per acre.)		
Town Lots—199 lots for	57,841	
	<hr/>	\$158,246

as compared with those of the year
ending 31st March, 1892, viz.—

Farm Lands—17,599 acres for ..	\$104,501	
(Averaging \$5·94 per acre.)		
Town Lots—119 lots for	55,025	
	<hr/>	\$159,526

This result cannot be considered otherwise than satisfactory in view of the low prices, as above alluded to, for produce throughout the past year, and the consequent scarcity of money in the country.

With a view to arriving at a more satisfactory arrangement in respect of the guarantee to Commissioned Officers, the continuation of which was left by the Shareholders to the discretion of the Board, the Directors have been in communication with the Officers, and as a result now submit the Resolutions which are embodied in the notice of the meeting prefixed to this Report.

These Resolutions, which have been agreed to by the Commissioned Officers, provide for a fixed yearly payment to them under existing conditions with regard to their retirement, in lieu of a share of the profits of the Fur Trade under the Deed Poll.

Believing this arrangement will be alike advantageous to the Company and the Officers, the Governor and Committee recommend it to the Proprietors for adoption.

The Governor and Committee desire to record their deep regret at the sudden death, in January last, of their colleague, MR. THOMAS RANNIE GRANT.

The following members of the Board retire on the present occasion :—

MR. SANDFORD FLEMING, C.M.G.,

MR. RUSSELL STEPHENSON,

MR. THOMAS SKINNER,

and they offer themselves for re-election.

MR. THOMAS A. WELTON also offers himself for re-election as Auditor.

On behalf of the Governor and Committee,

DONALD A. SMITH,
Governor.

(1.) GENERAL ACCOUNT.

*Exhibiting the results of trade of Outfit 1891; namely, from 1st June, 1891,
to 31st May, 1892.*

Dr.

Cr.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To Inventories 1st June, 1891, viz.—						
General Goods	324,199	18	5			
Advances from Outfit 1890 ..	47,159	7	6			
Ships & Steamers in Canada ..	32,503	17	5			
Trading Stations (Buildings, &c.)	45,636	4	9			
Cash at Trading Stations ..	19,659	3	7			
Balances due by—						
Customers £74,667	0	4				
Clerks and Servants 3,541	8	2				
	78,208	8	6			
	547,367	0	2			
Less Balances due to—						
Customers £9,759	11	1				
Clerks and Servants 12,908	0	1				
	22,667	11	2			
	524,699	9	0			
	157,398	8	7			
" Goods purchased in England						
" Payments in Canada (from proceeds of Bills drawn on London, and cash from Land Department) for Goods, Customs Duties and Freight.. ..						
	180,892	4	6			
" Sundry Credits to Officers and Servants:—						
For Cash due to them trans-ferred and credited their						
By Proceeds of Furs	296,170	11	7			
" " Other Imports	15,000	7	0			
	311,170	18	7			
Less Freight, Dock Charges, Insurance and Cartage	9,908	1	6			
	301,262	17	1			
" Bills remitted to London.. ..						
" Sundry Debits to Officers and Servants:—						
For Cash and Goods supplied and charged their private accounts in London ..	13,237	3	9			
For Cash received in London transferred and paid them in Canada ..	2,385	8	5			
	15,622	12	2			
" Inventories 31st May, 1892, viz.—						
General Goods	389,976	7	11			
Advances to Outfit 1892	60,700	8	2			
Ships & Steamers in Canada ..	29,571	12	6			
Trading Stations (Buildings, &c.)	55,022	8	0			
Cash at Trading Stations ..	14,861	2	6			
Balances due by—						
Customers £101,824	5	6				
Clerks and Servants 3,713	6	7				

	665,669	11	2
Less Balances due to— Customers £12,071 Clerks and Servants 13,487	13 8 5 8		
	25,558	19	4
			630,110
			11 10

For Cash and Bills paid in London and charged them in Canada ..	4,958	12	7
" Other Debits incidental to carrying on the trade of Outfit 1891 ..	2,042	12	9
Less Sundry Credits ..	13,371	3	7
	11,318	15	1
EXPENSES INCURRED IN LONDON, 1st June, 1891, to 31st May, 1892, viz.:—			
Governor and Committee	2,400	0	0
Warehouse Expenses and Share of Salaries of Secretary and Staff ..	5,222	17	9
Rent and Taxes of Warehouse in Lime Street, and proportion for Offices ..	4,518	16	8
Less Rent received	1,935	0	0
	2,583	16	8
Share of Office expenses, including Stationery, Printing, Telegrams, Postages, and Law Charges ..	966	2	1
Alterations to Warehouse..	978	5	3
	12,151	1	9
Share of Commissioners' Salary..	1,305	11	1
Pensions in London and Canada ..	750	0	0
Balance on Outfit 1891, carried to Account No. 2 ..	64,165	19	11
	£950,416	8	8

Ex.

Outfit 1891, and previous Outfits.

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£65,480 13 9

£39,027	3	11
£39,027	3	11

HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY.

(4.) PROFIT AND LOSS.

Dr. Cr.
1st June, 1892, to 31st May, 1893.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Commissioned Officers and Appropriation under Guarantee for Outfit 1891 ..	9,253	16	5	By Balance from Account No. 2 ..	..	..	56,614 10 2
„ Interest on Officers' and Servants' Deposits	1,615	3	7	„ Balance of Interest on Fur Trade Account..	..	..	3,339 11 6
„ Income Tax	1,057	9	6	„ Profit from Underwriting Account ..	..	..	1,507 9 8
„ Payment to Bishop of Rupert's Land, under agreement with the Company, and order of the Court of Chancery, dated December, 1849	300	0	0	„ Balance transferred from Land Account No. 3 .. .. ..	..	..	18,944 10 4
„ Auditor's Fee	150	0	0	„ Dividends, Interest and Transfer Fees ..	..	..	5,212 18 6
„ Sundry payments not chargeable to General Account:—							
Share of London Salaries ..1,000 0 0							
Ditto London Rent and Taxes 440 0 0							
Printing, Stationery, Advertising, Telegrams, Postages and Law Charges 449 9 10							
	1,889	9	10				
„ Balance carried to General Profit and Loss Account (No. 5), being Net Profits ..	71,353	0	10				
	£85,619	0	2				£85,619 0 2

(5.) GENERAL PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

31st May, 1893.

Gr.

	£	s.	d.
To Dividend at 6/6 per Share, declared 14th July, 1892	32,500	0	0
„ Balance carried down, being Undivided Profits at 31st May, 1893	89,116	8	0
	£121,616	8	0

	£	s.	d.
By Balance 31st May, 1892, brought forward ..	50,263	7	2
„ Profit for year ending 31st May, 1893, as per Account No. 4 ..	71,353	0	10
	£121,616	8	0

May 31. By Balance brought down ..	£89,116	8	0
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I have examined the Books, Accounts, and Vouchers of the Company in London, and the various authenticated Statements and Certificates received from Canada, and I hereby certify that the Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Accounts are in accordance therewith.

5, MOORGATE STREET, LONDON, E.C.
29th June, 1893.

THOMAS A. WELTON,
(Welton, Jones & Co.)



